## REMARKS

Claims 3 - 7 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 6 and 7 have each been amended. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated March 8, 2006.

### As to the Merits:

The Examiner maintains the following rejections:

1) claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,489,168, of record); and

2) claims 3, 4, 5 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. in view of Borders (U.S. Patent No. 6,351,678, of record);.

Each of these rejections are respectfully traversed.

### Independent Claims 3-5:

With regard to claims 3-5, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to provide any response to Applicants' position that Borders fails to disclose or suggest that selection indicators 118, 120, 122, 124: constitute vessels that are part of the created protocol and

are selected such they can identified from the non-selected vessels on the display screen together

with the operation contents related to the selected vessels, as called for in claim 3; constitute

*selected vessels described in the selected protocol line in a manner such that they can be*

*identified on the screen from the non-selected vessels, together with operation contents related to*

*said selected vessels*, as called for in independent claim 4; and constitute only the vessels that are

described in the selected protocol line that is being executed are selected such they can identified

from the non-selected vessels on the display screen, as called for in independent claim 5.

In addition, with regard to Applicants' lack of motivation and non-analogous art

arguments, the Examiner "concedes that Borders teaches a medical device system and not a

reactor system."[1]

However, the Examiner further argues in item 6 of the Action that:

> This does not preclude the reference from being analogous art, however. While Borders teaches a medical system, both references teach devices that are automated for certain functions in response to input from the user. The input is given through the screen in both references and the operator receives information on the control screen in response to the information entered. Borders adds the additional feature of reminding the user which menu selection has been selected. The Examiner believes that one of ordinary skill in the arts would recognize that this is a desirable feature in a control system that displays and receives information on a touchable screen - as in Wang.

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[1] Please see, lines 18-19, page 3 of the Action.

However, it is submitted that neither reference, <u>Wang</u> or <u>Borders</u>, provides any

motivation for the combination. Instead, it is submitted that the Examiner is relying on the

Applicants' own disclosure for combining the teachings of these references, which amount to

impermissible hindsight. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to

establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, since the Examiner has failed to provide adequate

motivation for combining the references, and more importantly, even if, the references are

combined in the manner suggested by the Examiner, the combined teachings would still not teach

all the features set forth in each of independent claims 3-5, as discussed above.

## Independent Claims 6 and 7:

With regard to Applicants' argument that while <u>Wang</u> does disclose a data analysis

module 145, such module 145 is for performing quantitative calculations on sampled data (see,

col. 6, lines 29-31, 61-65) and <u>not</u> for picking out commands related to a selected vessel from a

protocol and determining if the procedure for the selected vessel is correct, as called for in each

of independent claims 6 and 7, the Examiner asserts in item 7 of the Action that he considers the

conversion determination by the control system to be analyzing the reaction protocol for a

selected vessel. That is, the Examiner assets that the addition of the quenching agent is a

command picked out by the control system that is related to the selected vessel. Therefore, the

Examiner believes that <u>Wang</u> does indeed teach an analysis means for analyzing a protocol

prescribing a series of commands for synthesis of compounds and picking out commands related to the selected vessel from said protocol.

However, it is respectfully submitted that with regard to the Applicants' argument that the feature of "determining if the procedure for the selected vessel is correct" is not taught by Wang, the Examiner fails to provide any response to this argument.

Moreover, to further the prosecution of the present application, each of claims 6 and 7, as amended, now explicitly recite this feature to clearly distinguish these claims from Wang.

For example, as shown in steps S13 in the flowchart of Fig. 9 of the present application, the analysis means 9 checks the operation contents related to the selected vessel for errors.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.
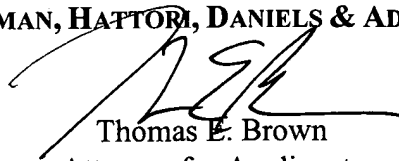
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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